Pending Schemes of North Eastern Region

578. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes of the North Eastern States pending with her Ministry;

(b) since how long these are pending;

(c) the reasons for not according approval to these schemes; and

(d) by when these are likely to be cleared for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) In order to provide suitable infrastructure and basic amenities in the urban areas of the North Eastern States including Sikkim, Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is implementing projects/ schemes since 2001-02, in the urban areas of NER, under 10% lumpsum provision of the total Plan Budget of the Ministry separately earmarked for this purpose. Under this programme, individual projects related to housing, slum upgradation/development and employment generation/ poverty alleviation are taken up and sanctioned by the Ministry as per the prescribed norms. During 2005-06, 12 project proposals from the State Governments were received for funding under 10% lumpsum provision of the Budget. The project proposals are examined in the Ministry from technical/financial angle and thereafter approved as per the procedure. The proposals received during the current year are at various stages of processing. The approval of these projects is subject to their fulfilling the requisite criteria as per the existing guidelines.

Reservation of land for economically weaker sections

579. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have directed the development authorities in the metros to reserve 20-25 per cent of the land for economically weaker sections at the affordable prices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are planning a legislation to facilitate cross-subsidisation of the low-income housing by the development authorities;

(c) if so, the details of cities covered thereby; and

(d) the steps being contemplated by Government to generate low-cost housing to meet rising demands in the metros?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A centrally sponsored scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) is being implemented w.e.f. 2.12.2001 in urban areas of all States/UTs. The Scheme has the primary objective to facilitate construction and upgradation of dwelling units for slum dwellers living below poverty line and to provide healthy and enabling urban environment through community toilets.

Building Materials Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC), and autonomous organization, set up under the administrative control of the Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is constantly engaged in development an promotion of innovative and cost effective building materials and construction techniques for wider application in low cost house construction.

12.00 NOON

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need to Share the Information/Documents procured from the United Nations in connection with the enquiry Instituted by the Government on the findings of Volcker Committee Report

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you to provide me with an opportunity to make a submission to you and an appeal to the Government. As per the business that is known to us, tomorrow, we are slated to have a